

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS

Claim 1 (Previously Presented): A color toner composition, comprising:
toner particles comprising:

a binder resin; and

a colorant and a release agent dispersed in the binder resin, and

0.3 to 1.5 parts by weight of titania having a primary particle diameter of 0.005 to 0.02 μ m as an external additive,

wherein the colorant has an average dispersion particle diameter not greater than 0.5 μ m;

the release agent and the binder resin are insoluble to each other;

the toner particles satisfy the following relationship:

$$0.05 \leq D_w/D_4 \leq 0.4,$$

wherein D_w represents an average dispersion particle diameter of the release agent and D_4 represents a weight-average particle diameter of the toner particles; and

the titania has a segregation rate of from 0.5 to 5 %.

Claim 2 (Original): The color toner composition of Claim 1, wherein relationship

$$D_4/D_n \leq 1.3$$

is satisfied, wherein D_4 represents the weight-average particle diameter of the toner particles and the D_n represents a number-average particle diameter of the toner particles.

Claim 3 (Original): The color toner composition of Claim 1, wherein the release agent is one of polyolefin waxes and carnauba waxes which are subjected to a treatment of eliminating free fatty acid therefrom.

Claim 4 (Original): The color toner composition of Claim 1, wherein the release agent has a melting point of from 85 to 95 °C and a ratio (Mw/Mn) of a weight-average molecular weight (Mw) to a number-average molecular weight (Mn) of from 1.0 to 1.2.

Claim 5 (Original): The color toner composition of Claim 1, wherein the titania has an average primary particle diameter of from 0.002 μ m to 0.03 μ m.

Claim 6 (Original): The color toner composition of Claim 1, wherein the binder resin has a softening point of from 80 to 110 °C.

Claim 7 (Original): The color toner composition of Claim 1, wherein the binder resin comprises at least one of a polyester resin and a polyol resin.

Claim 8 (Original): The color toner composition of Claim 1, wherein the toner particles further comprise a charge controlling agent, and wherein the charge controlling agent comprises a metallic salt of salicylic acid derivatives.

Claim 9 (Withdrawn): A method for manufacturing a color toner composition, comprising:

kneading a first part of a binder resin, a colorant, and water upon application of heat to prepare a master batch pigment;

kneading a second part of the binder resin, a release agent that is insoluble ~~to~~ in the binder resin, and the master batch pigment upon application of heat to prepare a mixture; ~~and~~
pulverizing the mixture to prepare a color toner,
mixing the color toner with 0.3 to 1.5 parts by weight of titania having a primary particle diameter of 0.005 to 0.02 μ m using a mixer having a mixing blade, for not less than 50 sec, to obtain a color toner composition which comprises

toner particles comprising:

said binder resin; and

said colorant and said release agent dispersed in the binder resin, and

said 0.3 to 1.5 parts by weight of titania having a primary particle diameter of 0.005 to 0.02 μ m as an external additive,

wherein the colorant has an average dispersion particle diameter not greater than 0.5 μ m;

the release agent and the binder resin are insoluble in each other;

the toner particles satisfy the following relationship:

$$0.05 \leq D_w/D_4 \leq 0.4,$$

wherein D_w represents an average dispersion particle diameter of the release agent and D_4 represents a weight-average particle diameter of the toner particles; and

the titania has a segregation rate of from 0.5 to 5 %.

Claim10 (Withdrawn): The method of Claim 9, ~~further comprising:~~

~~mixing the color toner with 0.3 to 1.5 parts by weight of titania having a primary particle diameter of 0.005 to 0.02 μ m by a mixer having a mixing blade for not less than 50 sec,~~

~~wherein the mixing blade has an end peripheral velocity of from 15 to 35 m/sec.~~

Claim 11 (Original): A two-component developer comprising the color toner composition of Claim 1 and a carrier.

Claim 12 (Original): A container containing the color toner composition of Claim 1.

Claim 13 (Original): A container containing the two-component developer of Claim 11.

Claims 14 -20 (Canceled)

Claim 21 (Previously Presented): An image forming method comprising:
forming at least one electrostatic latent image on a latent-image bearer;
developing the electrostatic latent image with at least one color developer comprising a color toner to form a color toner image on the latent-image bearer;
transferring the toner image onto a transfer sheet optionally via an intermediate transfer medium,
wherein the color toner comprises toner particles comprising:
a binder resin; and
a colorant and a release agent dispersed in the binder resin, and
0.3 to 1.5 parts by weight of titania having a primary particle diameter of 0.005 to 0.02 μ m as an external additive,
wherein the colorant has an average dispersion particle diameter not greater than 0.5 μ m;
the release agent and the binder resin are insoluble to each other;

the toner particles satisfy the following relationship:

$$0.05 \leq D_w/D_4 \leq 0.4,$$

wherein D_w represents an average dispersion particle diameter of the release agent and D_4 represents a weight-average particle diameter of the toner particles; and
the titania has a segregation rate of from 0.5 to 5 %.

Claim 22 (Previously Presented): The image forming method of Claim 20, wherein transferring the toner image onto a transfer sheet transfers the toner image through an intermediate transfer medium.

BASIS FOR THE AMENDMENT

Claim 9 has been amended to include all limitations of allowable Claim 1 and as supported by Claim 10, at page 29 of the specification and by the Examples. Claim 10 has been amended as supported by Claim 10 as originally filed.

Non-elected Claims 14-20 have been canceled.

No new matter is believed to have been added by entry of this amendment. Entry and favorable reconsideration are respectfully requested.

Upon entry of this amendment Claims 1-13 and 21-22 will now be active in this application.